Amendment of Flying Rules for Aerial Survey

†1786. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investor have brought the attention of Government towards the difficulties they are facing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to amend flying rules for aerial survey by the companies desirous of making investment in mining sector; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps Government have taken to remove the other problems related to this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Recently, a tripartite meeting of Central Government, State Governments and investors in the mining sector was held for possible redressal of problems faced by the investors. The issues raised by the investors related to simplification of procedure for grant of permission for airborne geophysical surveys, problems in gaining access to geo-physical data etc.

(c) and (d) One of the issues raised by the investors regarding simplification of procedure for grant of permission for airborne geophysical surveys related to expediting the clearances for aerial flying and lowering the permissible limits for such flying. The issues raised were noted by the representative of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), and it was decided that efforts will be made to reduce the time taken for disposal of applications. However, DGCA has informed that in view of the safety and security requirements, there is no proposal to change the Aircraft Rules, 1937 pertaining to aerial surveys.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.